



COUNTERFEIT COMPONENT POLICY and PROCEDURES / PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

As an Independent distributor of electronic components, providing quality products has always been at the core of operations of Lantek Corporation. Since a significant part of the business it does is worldwide sourcing of hard to find, and obsolete parts, Lantek has always had to be on its guard against counterfeit parts and so, comparatively early, designed systems to prevent unwitting trade in these parts.

The greatest defense against counterfeit parts is to know the supplier or to buy from a reputable company. Being so, Lantek have invested, and continue to invest, resources to develop relationships with suppliers, continually monitoring product supplied, providing feedback, and strengthening links with manufacturers and authorized distributors. Much of the specialized purchasing is now being done centrally, which allows greater control.

The next best line of defense is a skilled and motivated goods-in inspection team and their ownership of responsibility for what is accepted. Visual inspection starts with the outer packaging and labeling and continues down to component level. Unfortunately, with readily available technology, goods received in manufacturer's packaging, even from an authorized distributor, can no longer be taken at face value. Visual inspection is boosted by optical equipment capable of x200 magnification, specialized lighting and high-resolution photography. Chemical testing, manufacturer's data sheets and digital micrometer measurement down to 0.001 mm aid physical inspection.

Lantek Corporation has access to the Sentry Counterfeit IC Detector from ABI Electronics. Lantek have also indicated their willingness to work with component manufacturers and other distributors to trace counterfeit parts back to source.

In many respects Lantek's measures far outweigh what is available to the majority of OEMs and CEMs but even so, one cannot become complacent. As counterfeiters become more adept and more technically proficient, new ways of preventing counterfeit or non-authorized product from entering the supply chain must be developed. Despite all that they have done, and all that they seek to do, like NASA and BA, Lantek cannot guarantee that these processes and procedures are not fallible.

Lantek Corporation have found that working with their suppliers and customers, on processes that are complimentary to those used by Lantek, is highly effective in preventing counterfeit parts reaching the production lines. Lantek accepts that, in many cases, their suppliers are victims as well, and do not necessarily have the same resources available to us to combat this threat.